



THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mannava, et al.

Serial No: 08/719,341

Filed: September 25, 1996

For: LASER SHOCK PEENED GAS TURBINE
ENGINE COMPRESSOR AIRFOIL EDGES

Hon. Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

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EM23350117205

Oct. 7, 1998

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed June 8, 1998, and the telephonic interview of September 14, 1998 as outlined in the Examiner's Interview Summary, Paper No. 25, please consider the following remarks:

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Claim Rejection - 35 USC §103(a) Group 3700

2. The Examiner's rejection of Claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), as being unpatentable over Mannava 5,591,009, in view of Neal et al. 4,426,867, has been carefully considered by the Applicants and the Applicants respectfully disagree. The Applicants respectfully submit that the Mannava '009 patent is not available to the Examiner as a "103" reference because the Mannava '009 patent was filed (January 17, 1995) after an Invention Disclosure entitled "Enhanced Compressor Blade for Aircraft Engines" signed by the Applicants was disclosed to the Applicants' employer and based upon which the Parent Application, Serial No: 08/399,285, of the present Patent Application was filed (March 6, 1995) and after the present invention was reduced to practice during actual testing. A new "DECLARATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.131(b)" signed by one of the Applicants, Mannava is submitted herewith showing that the invention was reduced to practice before the "103" reference date for the Mannava '009 patent which was filed January 17, 1995. The Declaration states that the Applicants invented the

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